

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Bill E. Cham and Jo-Ann Maltais)
Serial No. Not yet assigned) Art Unit: Not yet assigned
Filed: June 20, 2003) Examiner: Not yet assigned
For: A Method of Treating and Preventing)
Infectious Diseases Via Creation of a)
Modified Viral Particle with)
Immunogenic Properties)

**STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL BECAUSE OF
INVENTION RELATING TO HIV/AIDS (37 CFR § 1.102 AND M.P.E.P. § 708.02(X))**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, John K. McDonald, Ph.D., am an attorney for the applicants in the above-identified application, and I hereby state the following:

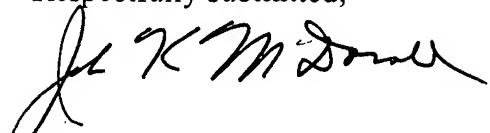
1. The invention disclosed in the above-identified application is directed to compositions and methods which are useful in the treatment of HIV/AIDS, as specified in M.P.E.P. § 708.02(X). The present invention provides modified viral particles, methods of making these particles and methods of using them as components of vaccines to treat or prevent HIV infection.

2. Pre-examination searches have been conducted.

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3. An information disclosure statement is concurrently filed together with a copy of each reference.

Respectfully submitted,



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